

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7 and 10-11 without prejudice and disclaimer, amend claim 1, and add new claims 13-15 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
 - a first substrate on a main surface thereof, a black mask and color filters, each arranged in an aperture of the black mask, being formed;
 - a liquid crystal layer;
 - a second substrate disposed opposite to the first substrate across the liquid crystal layer and stuck to the first substrate by a sealing material applied to peripheries of a main surface of the first substrate facing the liquid crystal layer and of a main surface of the second substrate facing the liquid crystal layer;
 - a stacked structure formed on the main surface of the second substrate by stacking in order first signal lines, an insulating film covering the first signal lines, and second signal lines each overlappingly intersecting the first signal lines over the insulating film therebetween;
 - a plurality of pixel regions formed as being surrounded by respective neighboring first signal lines and second signal lines on the second substrate; and
 - first spacers and second spacers both formed on the main surfaces of the first substrate, and arranged corresponding to portions of the stacked structure located between neighboring pixel regions ~~on the black mask~~ and in the liquid crystal layer,
 - wherein each of the second spacers is ordinarily spaced from the stacked structure formed on the second substrate to accommodate the liquid crystal layer therebetween, and each of the first spacers ordinarily contacts directly ~~contacts~~ with the stacked structure formed on the second substrate,
 - wherein some of said portions of the stacked structure contacting with the first spacers are thicker than others of said portions of the stacked structure corresponding to the second spacers with the liquid crystal layer interposed therebetween.
- 2-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein each of the second spacers contacts with the stacked structure formed on the second substrate while the first spacers are subjected to an external force and elastically deformed.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein each of the first spacers contacts with the stacked structure at an overlappingly intersecting position of one of the first signal lines and one of the second signal lines, and
each of the second spacers contacts with another part of the stacked structure which includes one of the first signal lines but excludes any one of the second signal lines.
9. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the black mask and the color filters are covered by a protective film to bury steps formed by the black mask and the color filters, and the first spacers and the second spacers are formed on top of the protective film.
- 10-11. (Cancelled)
12. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device, according to claim 1, wherein the second substrate has a plurality of pixels arranged on the main surface thereof, and each of the pixels has a switching element controlled by one of the first signal lines and a pixel electrode receiving a signal from one of the second signal lines through the switching element.
13. (New) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
 - a first substrate including color filters;
 - a liquid crystal layer;

a second substrate disposed opposite to the first substrate across the liquid crystal layer;

first signal lines formed on the second substrate;

second signal lines intersecting the first signal lines with an insulating film provided therebetween;

a plurality of pixel regions formed as being surrounded by respective neighboring first signal lines and second signal lines;

a base pattern formed between neighboring pixel regions;

first spacers formed above the base pattern on the first substrate; and

second spacers formed on a main surface of the first substrate without the base pattern in-between,

wherein each of the second spacers is ordinarily spaced from a stacked structure formed on the second substrate to accommodate the liquid crystal layer therebetween, and each of the first spacers ordinarily contacts directly the stacked structure formed on the second substrate.

14. (New) A liquid crystal display device, according to claim 13, wherein each of the second spacers contacts with the stacked structure formed on the second substrate, when the first spacers are subjected to an external force and elastically deformed.
15. (New) A liquid crystal display device, according to claim 13, wherein the base pattern is covered by a protective film provided between the base pattern and the first spacers.